

CHILDREN AND FIRE SAFETY:

Never play with matches or lighters

- Teach children how to call in an emergency.
- Use safety plugs for electrical outlets not in use.

HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN:



- Have an escape plan and make sure that all family members know it.
- Practice the plan every six months.
- Keep emergency numbers handy near the phone.
- Identify an outside meeting place and never return into a burning building.

FIRE SAFETY TECHNOLOGY:

- Consider installing residential fire sprinklers

For more information about how to keep your home and family safe from fire, please write to:

City of Bloomington Fire Department
P. O. Box 100
Bloomington, IN 47402

Or call: Office 812-332-9763
FAX 812-332-9764

Or E-mail

FIRE@BLOOMINGTON.IN.GOV

All Bloomington Fire Departments are
"Safe Places."

For more information about how to keep your home and family safe from fire, please contact us at

City of Bloomington Fire Department
300 E. 4th St.
P. O. Box 100
Bloomington, IN 47402

Office 812-332-9763
Fax 812-332-9764
E-mail - fire@bloomington.in.gov

Office hours - 8am - 5pm, M-F

Please call 911 for all Emergencies

HOME FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST



IS YOUR HOME FIRE-SAFE? TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO WALK THROUGH YOUR HOME AND USE THIS CHECKLIST TO MAKE SURE YOUR HOME IS FIRE-SAFE!



The following outline includes minimum fire safety standards that should be observed when conducting a walk through of an existing residential structure. The outline is intended to be a general guideline. When issues of technical concern arise, professional guidance should be sought.



SMOKE DETECTORS:

Smoke detectors, their placement and performance, are the most critical element in early warning of fire. The following guidelines should be observed:

- Smoke detector inside each sleeping room
- Smoke detector on each floor, including the basement.
- Keep smoke detectors away from air vents.
- Never place a smoke detector directly in a kitchen or near a bathroom door
- Smoke detectors should be mounted on ceilings or walls 4" to 6" from other surface

ELECTRICAL WIRING:

Electrical wiring can be inspected for obvious defects by relatively untrained persons; however, it is strongly suggested that thorough inspections be conducted by qualified persons to assure maximum levels of safety. The following are routine items to check:

- Signs of obvious defective (cracked or frayed) wiring.



- Excessive use of extension cords. Eliminate all extension cords under rugs, in walkways or stapled to walls and trim. Extension cords should be designed to be capable of serving all loads imposed
- Look for obvious signs of cracked, broken or burnt electrical devices (switches and outlets). Deteriorated devices should be replaced immediately by qualified persons.
- All covers over electrical devices and the electric panels should be installed properly, and doors on panels should remain closed when not being serviced.

HOUSEHOLD HEATING APPLIANCES:

- Heating appliance servicing should be done prior to each heating season and at any signs of malfunction.
- All storage should be removed from furnace closet. 3' clearances should be provided in rooms with furnaces.
- The use of portable heaters should be eliminated. If they are a necessity, the following should be observed:
 1. Electric space heaters should be plugged directly into the wall, and the outlet should be certified capable of supplying the intended load.
 2. Kerosene heaters should have oxygen depletion sensors, and **only K-1 KEROSENE IS TO BE PUT IN THE HEATER!**
 3. If kerosene heaters must be used, use only in well ventilated areas, away from curtains, clothes and furniture.
 4. Refuel kerosene heaters outdoors after the unit has cooled.
 5. Kerosene heaters are prohibited in multi-family dwellings and in any bedroom.

WOODSTOVES AND FIREPLACES:

- Clean and inspect chimneys at least once a year. Twice for high use.
- Use only seasoned wood. Never burn green wood, artificial logs or trash.
- Always use a protective screen at the fireplace opening.
- Empty ashes in non-combustible container—**NOT PLASTIC**

SAFE COOKING PRACTICES:

- Don't leave food unattended on the stove.
- Keep curtains and combustible materials away from the stove at all times.
- Keep stove clean and free of grease and crumbs.
- Make sure stove is off and small appliances are unplugged before going to bed.
- Properly mount and maintain a residential fire extinguisher at a safe location away from the range, but handy in the kitchen.

SAFE SMOKING HABITS:

- If you must smoke, **never smoke in bed.**
- Keep ashtrays away from furniture and curtains.
- Always attend smoking materials while in use.
- Fully extinguish all smoking materials once finished.
- Make sure ashtrays are fully extinguished before emptying them into a waste container. **Empty metal food cans with some water are excellent to empty ash trays into.**